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A new species of *Trocheta* (Hirudinea: Erpobdellidae) from France (Pyénées, Nive/Adour River basin)

[Eine Neue *Trocheta*-Art (Hirudinea: Erpobdellidae) aus Frankreich (Pyrenäen, Flußgebiet Nive/Adour)]

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With 7 Figures

Schlagwörter: *Trocheta*, Hirudinea, Nivelle, Pyrenäen, Frankreich, Morphologie, Taxonomie, Erstbeschreibung, Habitat

The leech *Trocheta falkneri* n. sp. is described from Southwestern France. This semiaquatic species is a predator and inhabits the spring effluent.

Der Egel *Trocheta falkneri* n. sp. wird aus den Pyrenäen in Südwestfrankreich beschrieben. Die potentiell semiaquatische Art ist ein räuberischer Besiedler in einem Quellabfluß.

1 Introduction

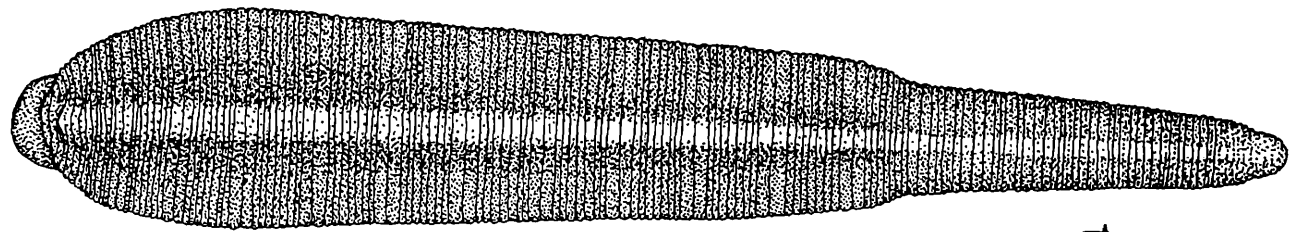
Up to now, only three species of the genus *Trocheta* are known from France DUTROCHET (1817), HOFFMANN (1961), NESEMAN & NEUBERT (1994), PERRET (1952) and TURQUIN (1984). They can easily be identified by the position of their genital pores and the colour of the dorsal surface of the body. The new species described here differs by several external and internal characters from all other taxa of the genus known from the western palaearctic region.

2 *Trocheta falkneri* n. sp. (Figs. 1-7)

Type material: Holotype: Senckenberg Museum Frankfurt a. M., SMF 5237, one paratype SMF 5238.

Locus typicus: France, Pyrenées, Dép. Pyrenées-Atlantiques, River Nive, Arneguy, brook of the spring "Sor Lurreau", 27. August 1995, leg. G. Falkner.

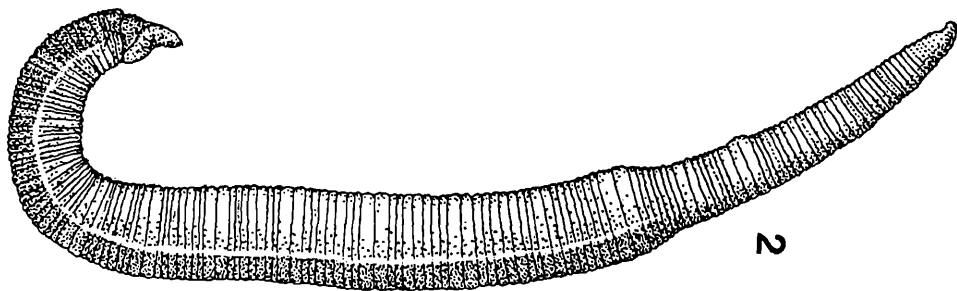
Description: The big leeches reach a body length of up to 100 mm in living specimen. The preserved type material reaches 49-73 mm body length and 5-11,5 mm width. The body is dorsally flattened. In the postclitellar region, prominent blunt lateral keels are present. The dorsal part of the cranial sucker is extremely elongated to form a small lip In the pharynx, the thin pseudognaths are elongated compared to congeneric species. Annulation: The annulus b6 is always widened and heteronomously subdivided. One somite is composed of 8-9 annuli. The annulation formula of the postclitellar region reads c1, c2, b2, a2,



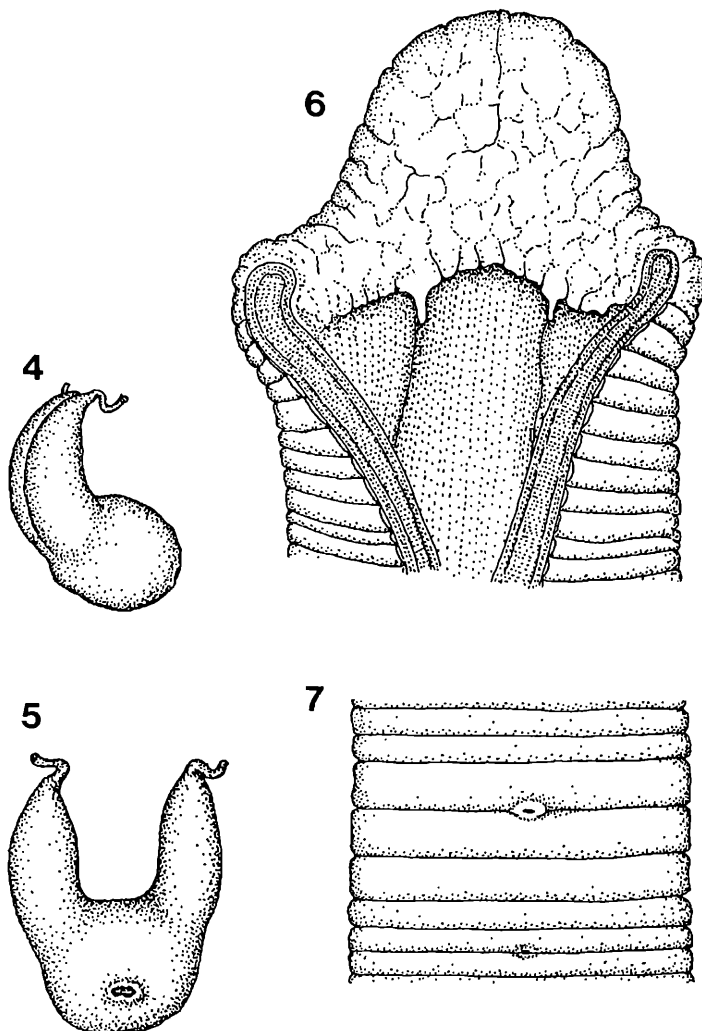
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Figs 1-7: *Trocheta falkneri* n. sp. Fig. 1: Habitus dorsal, Fig. 2: lateral, Fig. 3: one somite of the postclitellar region showing the annulation and colour, Fig. 4: Atrium lateral, Fig. 5: ventral, Fig. 6: Pharynx with pseudognaths, sectioned, ventral view, Fig. 7: somite XII with the position of the genital pores, ventral

b5 (c9, c10), c11, d23, d24. The number of annuli per somite varies depending on the ontogenetic stage and the subsequent subdivision of b5 into c9 and c10. The genital pores are separated by 4-5 annuli, with the male porus in or very close to the furrow XII b2/a2. The female porus is situated in XII d23/d24. The atrial body is very small with short coiled cornua and reaches from XIIb2/a2 to the caudal part of XIIc2.

The colour of the living specimens is dark brownish or nearly black. On the dorsum, there is one faint median light stripe. The ventral surface is always somewhat lighter than the dorsum. Preserved specimens are dark greyish on the dorsum and pale greyish on the ventral surface.

Affinities: The new leech-species *Trocheta falkneri* differs from *T. subviridis* DUTROCHET 1817 by the position of the genital pores, by the colour of the dorsal part of the body and by the size of its atrial body. *T. falkneri* can easily be distinguished from all other taxa of the genus *Trocheta* by the number of annuli between the male and female gonopores.

Habitat: The leeches were collected in the hypocrrenal reach of the spring "Sor Lurreau". The spring is also inhabited by the prosobranch snails *Belgrandiella saxatilis* (REYNIÉS, 1844) and *Bythinella darrieuxii* (DE FOLIN & BÉRILLON, 1877). The spring and brook is the type locality of *B. darrieuxii*, which is indicated in the original publication of DE FOLIN & BÉRILLON (1877: 208 (10)) as „Bente d'Arneguy“ (Bente = span. Venta).

Derivatio nominis: This species is named in honour of the German malacologist Gerhard Falkner, Wörth-Hörlkofen, who collected the leech described here and provided leech material, literature, help and discussions.

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